



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 1102

LCO No. 3636

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT INCREASING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CONNPAGE PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-491 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) There shall be a "Connecticut Pharmaceutical Assistance
4 Contract to the Elderly and the Disabled Program" which shall be
5 within the Department of Social Services. The program shall consist of
6 payments by the state to pharmacies for the reasonable cost of
7 prescription drugs dispensed to eligible persons minus a copayment
8 charge, effective July 1, 1993, of twelve dollars for each prescription,
9 except that the copayment charge applicable to such persons whose
10 annual income, if unmarried, is fifteen thousand one hundred dollars
11 or more, or whose annual income, if married, when combined with
12 that of a spouse is eighteen thousand one hundred dollars or more
13 shall be twenty-four dollars for each prescription. The pharmacy shall
14 collect the copayment charge from the eligible person at the time of
15 each purchase of prescription drugs, and shall not waive, discount or
16 rebate in whole or in part such amount.

17 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is
18 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

19 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any
20 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled,
21 (2) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than [thirteen thousand
22 eight] twenty-seven thousand six hundred dollars, or whose annual
23 income, if married, when combined with that of [his] such resident's
24 spouse is less than [sixteen thousand six] thirty-three thousand two
25 hundred dollars, (3) who is not insured under a policy which provides
26 full or partial coverage for prescription drugs once a deductible
27 amount is met, and (4) on and after September 15, 1991, who pays an
28 annual twenty-five-dollar registration fee to the Department of Social
29 Services, except that any resident whose annual income, if unmarried,
30 is fifteen thousand one hundred dollars or more, or whose annual
31 income, if married, when combined with that of a spouse is eighteen
32 thousand one hundred dollars or more shall pay an annual registration
33 fee of fifty dollars. On January 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the
34 commissioner shall, by the adoption of regulations in accordance with
35 chapter 54, increase the income limits established under this subsection
36 over those of the previous fiscal year to reflect the annual inflation
37 adjustment in Social Security income, if any. Each such adjustment
38 shall be determined to the nearest one hundred dollars.

39 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the annual income limits of elderly or disabled persons eligible to participate in the ConnPACE program thereby assisting such persons with the escalating cost of prescription drugs.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]